



AMERICAN REVIEW OF EASTERN ORTHODOXY



VOL. 5 NO. 2 FEBRUARY 1959

Let Us All Be Thankful . . .

for the many blessings we receive as
children of Almighty God and as citizens
of the United States.

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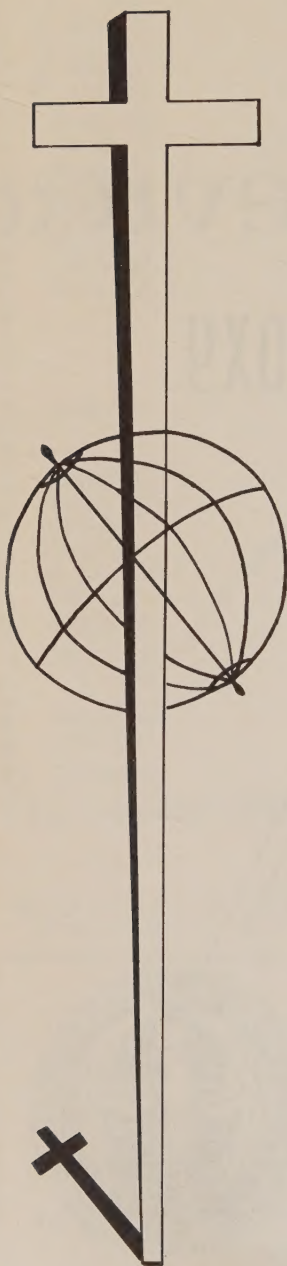
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VOLUME V NUMBER 2 FEBRUARY 1959



Affairs — PAST AND PRESENT

Stories on Religion were features of nearly every important publication in the U.S., during the 1920's. Much publicity has been given to the heralded "Ten Great Religious News Stories" of 1929, but neglect, on the part of both Political and Religious Leaders of most areas, has been evident in certain key fields and issues.

Communism, discrimination, refugees, and atomic dangers have been the outer "preached" about by religious leaders in general. The great neglect, that is patently obvious, is the failure of the general 'run-of-the-mill' religious spokesman to emphasize and take steps were taken to bring forth constructive patterns of thought on the Medusa-like problems arising from the evil twins of Crime and Alcoholism. Only a handful of Religious Leaders and they in population minority, seem to be interested in this crucial degeneration of the present Social System.

1929 revealed 1958 as the worst year in history for Crime in the U.S. The rate having increased over 10%. In addition, political corruption and dishonesty is openly evident; in the racketeering is at a new high; commercialized obscenity is everywhere present; the problem of alcoholism has an estimated 5,000,000 incurables, with a further increase by 1965 of an additional 2,000,000 anticipated; open sponsorship of off-track betting, bingo, and other amusements, social degeneration indicating the downward trend of National morals. The spectacle of the mayor of the largest City in the U.S. openly sponsoring gambling as a means of money-making shows the length to which the social apparatus has been stretched in the name of democracy.

What is the cause and reason? Two-fold, to the eyes of this editor: 1. Absence of spiritual Christianity; 2. Prevalence of sense-degeneration, commonly called immorality. Why these two?

The absence of 'spiritual Christianity' has been brought about by the desertion by the Church and its leaders of the meaning and purpose of Christ's Message. Only in the case of dedicated "non-religious missions", 'religiously-devoted social, scientific and academic educators', and occasional inspired leader provide the only glimmers of light in an otherwise darkened world. The so-called Christian Churches. This categorization applies, of course, to all of the denominations presently on the scene of human affairs; none are exempted.

Sense-degeneration, immorality or extreme materialism (call it by whatsoever name one wishes) is the second cardinal cause back of the present world condition, as well as the local national state. As the ancient Church originally taught, the weaknesses of men fall into two main areas of conduct (commonly called the Cardinal Sins). Any incentive that causes an individual to fall deeply into any of these types or areas is anti-Christ. The most common of these incentives, presently influencing modern man, is that of alcohol. As NAE Action

"Dr. Auguste Forel, of Switzerland, declared: 'In all countries where the alcoholic habit reigns, it accounts for from half to three quarters of the crimes, a great share of suicides, of mental disorders, of death, of pravity, of sexual excesses and venereal diseases, and of dissolution of families.'"

See Will Baptist' reports:

'Judge Joseph T. Zottoli, of Boston, made an exhaustive study of the relation between alcoholism and crime in Massachusetts. He concluded that 90% of the adult popula-

tion in prisons in Massachusetts, to which prisoners are sent for misdemeanors there because of offenses caused by drunkenness, and that about 50% of persons receiving sentences to felony institutions committed offenses related to drinking

'Federal Judge E.Y. Webb, of Shelby, N.C., said: About 75% of the criminal cases tried in my court have involved liquor. Liquor is our country's enemy number one

As the average person is prone to belittle such facts as here presented, the question must be asked them: 'Why do liquor establishments, of one kind or another, out-number the total of all churches, synagogues and other places of religious worship by more than 131,000'?

As reported in AREO in November: 'The Methodist Temperance Board states there are 275,826 sellers of liquor and 162,057 drinking places that sell only beer. A grand total of 437,933. At the same time, there are only 306,893 places of worship.....: 279,744 Protestant churches; 21,327 Roman Catholic; 4,079 synagogues; 1,357 Eastern Orthodox; 337 Catholic and 49 Buddhist temples.'

In 1957, according to statistics compiled by 'Advertising Age' (6/23/58), eleven brewers and distillers spent a combined total of \$101,582,614 for advertising. Newspapers accounted for 43% of the advertising dollar; magazines for 28%. The 'Clipsheet' (Methodist Board of Temperance) stated that documented alcohol advertising expenditures in eight media came to \$400,000,000, not including cost of 'ad' production. The National Safety Council estimates that 55% of all holiday highway fatalities show liquor to be a factor in the fatality.

WHO IS THE WINNER?

In the U.S.A.

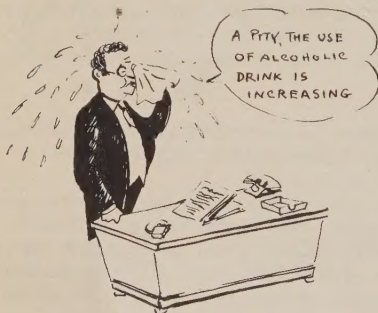
5,000,000 Alcoholics

\$12,500,000,000 annual personal income loss

.....showing that government departments have identical aims -

In the U.S.A.

\$4,000,000,000 Tax Receipts from sale of alcoholic beverages



Department of Health



Department of Revenue

Due to powerful liquor lobbies in both State and National legislatures, it has been impossible to obtain either recognition of the evil or legislation to afford remedies. Great effort has been exerted, thruout many years, to curb liquor advertising, thru appropriate legislation. It is hoped that the curbing of advertising will aid in safeguarding adolescent minds until their maturity. This, in itself, would be a great step forward, both in combatting alcoholism and juvenile delinquency. The Liquor Industry itself refuses to recognize the problem it is helping to feed and rejects any approach that detracts from its profits. Nor, does the Industry proffer, other than token recognition of the acute problem of alcoholism, any positive medical-psychiatric, clinical or spiritual aid to the victims of their greed.

Two bills have been re-introduced into Congress this current year to aid in solving these problems. Previous Congresses have rejected them both. They are:

Rep. E. Siler (R.-Ky.) has sponsored legislation to ban alcohol beverage advertising in interstate commerce. The measure would make it unlawful for any liquor dealer

distributor, manufacturer, etc. to transport, interstate, any advertising that would tend to solicit public or private consumption for alcoholic beverage.

Rep. G. Huddleston (D.-Ala.) has re-introduced H.R. 1263, which calls for the establishment of a special Medical Advisory Committee on Alcoholism in the Dep't. of Health, Education and Welfare. He stated that alcoholism ranks fourth in the Nation's major health problems. (Only heart, cancer and tuberculosis being more prevalent)

to the activity of the Christian Church, in the U.S., during 1958, one has to note that construction came within five million dollars of the all-time high, set in 1957. A grand \$863,000,000 was spent in 1958 for new church facilities.

as Relief Programs of the various American Churches totaled \$128,769,000 in 1958. Of all, Italy received the largest amount (\$28,423,000); Korea was next (\$20,730,000); India third (\$11,029,000); then Yugoslavia (\$10,010,000); 16th was Greece (\$1,666,000).

ations to 52 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox Churches gave promise of topping the total of \$2,206,593,817. In 1957, the highest per member giving was recorded by the Pilgrimage Church with \$206.85. Second was Wesleyan Methodist Church with \$204.97; and the Seventh Day Adventist with \$203.97. Average weekly donation, per person: \$1.09.

membership in the U.S. reached a new high of 104,189,678 in 1957, a gain of 964,724 over the previous year. This means that 61 out of every 100 Americans of all ages have a religious affiliation of some type. Of this total, 59,823,777 are Protestant, 35,846,477 are Roman Catholic, 5,500,000 are Jews, 2,540,446 are Eastern Orthodox, 273,692 are Old Catholic and Polish National Catholic Churches. Methodists, with 9,543,245, are the largest Protestant group.

Other interesting sidelight, it has been reported that the Defense Department is now trying to regiment all non-Catholic Christians into a sort of super-Protestant denomination; to create this hybrid group, an 'organized and properly syndicated, brain-washed' chaplain corps is being conscripted from existing chaplains. One Air Force Base issued an order some time ago in which it was stated: 'All Protestant groups shall be provided for in one general Protestant religious education program; separate denominational religious education programs, where necessary, shall not be conducted.'

The Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. was also urged to disband its practice of having a military chaplain serve the cadets. The vacancy is to be filled by a properly 'organized' Military Chaplain, thru 'regular channels'.

There is to be introduced into the Senate, which will allow the Chief of Chaplains (Army) to appoint, on a rotating basis, a military chaplain for the cadets. This bill would revoke the traditional Presidential appointment of the civilian chaplain.

The Church Distribution Study, under the general title 'Churches and Church Membership in the United States' presented the results of a study that embraced 114 religious bodies, with data for 1952; it was completed in 1958 by the Bureau of Research and Survey (NCCC). A summary shows:

	Metropolitan USA	Non-Metropolitan USA
1950 Population	57%	43%
Protestants	46%	54%
Roman Catholics	75%	25%
Protestant churches	29%	71%

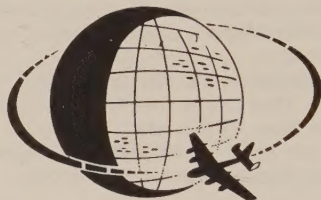
The six States are shown to be predominantly Protestant; Twelve States lean to Roman Catholicism, with an absolute majority in Rhode Island.

As Eastern Orthodoxy is concerned, the Defense Department has allocated ten chaplains to the same number as are given to the Mormons to fill. This, in spite of the fact that Eastern Orthodox have as many followers as the Episcopalian, who are given 92 chaplains;

the Disciples of Christ, who have fewer adherents than the Orthodox, are given 110 chapters. The obvious reason for this discrimination is because the Orthodox have protested being merely lumped with Protestants, in designation. The Defense Dep't. used this method of 'putting them in their place'. Such is the Review of the Year past and present, as far as the Armenians are concerned.

In summary, it is well to make mention of a recent 'warning' issued by a prominent delegate at the annual meeting of the National Council of Churches' Division of Home Missions. He said that the churches must face up to changing social patterns or face extinction.... 'millions of people are relatively inaccessible to churches, and more millions are spiritually insulated from church contact'. He stressed that the ministry is responsible for populations around them, whether they exist inside or outside of physical or social boundaries of their parishes.

In a separate address, two other thoughts were stressed. 1. Churches make it too easy for any person to become a Christian Church member - that most churches have the motto of 'Just now - learn later'. 2. Members of any church must contribute 'time and talent' and not just money; with each member expected to pray daily for the 'whole church of Christ' and to love and respect all their brethren regardless of race, social status or past life'.



AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE CHURCH FOREIGN

EASTERN ORTHODOX VIEWS ON PROPOSED 'ECUMENICAL COUNCIL'. To gain a true understanding of what an 'Ecumenical Council' is, one has to turn back thru the pages of history and examine facts as they took place, as well as the theological points involved.

Ecumenical Councils are gatherings of ecclesiastical authorities, who represent all phases of the historically, 'undivided' Church. In early days, usually the Emperor of Byzantium presided over these Councils, as well as ordering them into convention. At these Councils, the Five Patriarchates of Rome-Constantinople-Alexandria-Antioch-Jerusalem were represented. There has never been a concept, in those days, that a Pope or Patriarch was the 'infallible' mouthpiece of the Church; all were considered equal; - honor being bestowed on Old Rome, merely because of deference to Rome as the Seat of the Latin Empire of the Caesars. 'New Rome', known as Constantinople, was rendered second in honor, altho in the days of the Byzantine Empire, it was first in power and influence.

As to the Roman claim that 'no council has force unless the pope confirms their acts and decrees' let it be merely said that Pope Honorius I was anathematized by an Ecumenical Council, which was upheld by later popes, including Leo II. Certainly if the 'confirmation' of Pope Honorius had been essential to the council being 'ecumenical', it would never have passed by in history. This merely indicates the principle, long upheld by the Orthodox Church, that what makes a council 'ecumenical' is not 'who' is present, or 'who' sanctions the council, but HOW it is conducted, accepted, in the final analysis, by the people themselves. As any student or scholar knows, the only thing that kept the Council of Florence from being 'ecumenical' was its rejection by the Greek people and lesser clergy.

The so-called Ecumenical Councils that took place, at the instance of Rome, in days following the last great Ecumenical Seventh Council, are merely local Roman Catholic Councils that

alls Ecumenical. Actually, they are no more Ecumenical than any denominational meeting. Any Church group, inasmuch as they have no application anywhere except to Rome.

urpose of an 'ecumenical' council is to establish fundamental beliefs, tenets, dogmas, of conduct and ritual, and to eradicate abuses and misinterpretations of these same basic fundamentals beliefs and/or practices, which make the whole Church 'orthodox'. ('Orthodox', e, is a Greek word, as is 'ecumenical', that means 'correct teachings'; - 'Ecumenical' worldwide or universal'.)

such an 'ecumenical' council, all parties thereto must have a 'meeting-of-minds' that w for reasonable agreement on key points that now separate the Christian World Com- Principal points that separate the largest bodies (Roman, Orthodox, Anglican), that have ple liturgical form, are 1. Papal Infallibility 2. Certain theological keystones; e.g.- that of late Conception. The question involved here, in connection with this proposed 'ecumen- ncial, is: Why is it being called? What is the reason behind the scenes?

surface, the Pope has declared: one of the chief purposes will be to study ways of bring- it unity between the Roman Catholic Church and other Christian communities. - Other en for the Roman Church added to this, by saying that the Council will be 'aimed at ecation of Christian people'. A Jesuit educator explained that possibly this would include olpment of a 'unified' Bible, acceptable to all Christian denominations.

er the surface reasons may have been stated to be, a deeper underlying motive was put t observers; namely, that Rome feels the pressure of Communism against Her and seeks oil all Christianity in a death-struggle against Communism, even if it means destruction es on a world-wide basis. To this end, overtures must be made, and courtesies extended ristian world at large, in order to make a world-wide impregnation of the public mind catastrophe that awaits if Europe and Asia become non-religious in nature. Actually, if as the long, historical view, and has faith in God's omnipotence and wisdom, there can be g realization that God sometimes destroys the 'Ways of Men' to make way for a newer er scheme of things. So, fear, as such, has no place in the minds of men, in a case of e - for, actually, it is only the fear of destruction of a 'system', and that system's to survive that prompts these deceptive moves. If Mankind could replace 'his' efforts h 'reality' and a seeking of God's Will, most everything would find a happy solution. War ould then, also, find its own death, thru oblivion. However, at this stage of Man's evolu ch does not appear to be feasible. This is principally due to Man's emotional and spirit- maturity and an unceasing striving after material goals. Education, science and an honest ll approach to life, thru religion and otherwise, will eventually do away with these weak- Man, in those days to come, will then be able to stand upright, with his feet freed from rs and chains of ignorance-superstition-fear-materialism-and all the other attendant his nature. It is the intent and purpose of this exegesis to present the views of Ortho- the proposed 'Ecumenical Council', however. To do so, the following views, quotes ions of responsible authority, are given.

ch Benedictos of Jerusalem announced that only the highest prelates of the Orthodox are competent to decide whether or not to accept the Pope's invitation and that they will ntly to consider such a meeting, before accepting. His office also added, that, while the x appreciate Pope John's bid to end the rift between them, they are frankly skeptical of ng accomplished by an Ecumenical Council: and that 'we won't go to another Council of e'.

s of the Armenian Patriarchate, in Jerusalem, said that the Pope's invitation apparently nclude them. They stressed that the Armenian's difficulties with Rome stem from funda- doctinal differences concerning the nature of Christ. Similar difficulties, they added, the case of the Jacobites and the Copts.

fficial of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, in Istanbul, described the planned council as an onal event', but, he added, 'a rapprochement between the Orthodox and Roman Catholic s is no easy thing, because of the tremendous difficulties involved. But, if it is God's the wish of His representatives, an understanding may come to pass'.

In Athens, Professor Hamilcar Alivisatos, a prominent Orthodox theologian, said that the proposed council has 'no ecumenical meaning from the theological point of view'. However, it serve to remind Catholic and Orthodox that 'it was time for them to meet and to discuss differences'. 'There is no doubt', he concluded, 'that much good would result from such meetings'.

In New York City, the Russian Orthodox Church of America announced that, while it cannot part in the proposed Ecumenical Council at Rome, it 'hoped and prayed that valuable truth be revealed' at the sessions. The Church added that 'it welcomes every attempt for a settlement of the unfortunate division in Christendom today', but, it stressed, the Orthodox Church has a different 'concept' of an Ecumenical Council than that held by Rome. The difference in concept, the Church said, is that Rome subordinates the Council to the Pope, and, therefore, any council called by the Pope, ecumenical or otherwise, is at best a council of the Church of Rome and not ecumenical in the Orthodox sense of the word whatsoever.

Several years ago, the late Archbishop Michael of the Greek Church, had this to say on Orthodox talks with Rome: 'It is imperative that Orthodoxy become vigilant in the face of the intense activity of the Propaganda Fidei of Rome, for the dangers that beset the Orthodox Church are grave.....concerning reunion, we reassert and redeclare the truth that the Holy Orthodox Church is the only true continuation of the Early Undivided Church, and that Rome can return to the Church only when she abandons her errors. The year 1054 AD marks one of the tragedies in the history of the Church of Christ. It was the time when the venerable Church of the East separated from the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church and continued deceiving the Western world with the notion of the Primacy of the Pope. Not only did Rome break then with the Church of Christ, but she has been trying ever since to make the Orthodox Christians accept her preposterous claims to primacy.1054 AD is no less a blessing, for the Church of the Fathers was spared corruption. As a diseased limb, Rome was amputated from the sound body of the Church, in keeping with the practice of the Ancient Church of cutting off unsound members from the life and fellowship of the Church'.

The present Ecumenical Patriarch, Athenagoras, said early this year that 'every appeal for unity must be accompanied by concrete deeds and actions as are necessary to prove the intentions.....'

- Methodist Bishop John Wesley Ford of Boston, Mass. pointed out that Rome had been, on a number of instances, invited to participate in the open forum of the World Council of Churches and had always refused. He said that the WCC was comprised of 170 different Christian denominations and communions, including the Eastern Orthodox and Old Catholic Churches, and that such an opportunity to cooperate showed indifference to True Ecumenicity by Rome; and that Rome stands on the firm basis that only she embodies Christian truth and that she alone is infallible. He concluded that such assertions are 'sheer arrogance' and that any participation by Protestants in any such council would 'amount to a betrayal of our Lord'.

* * * * *

CLAIM 'GARDEN OF EDEN' SITE DISCOVERED. Danish archeologists working in the British protectorate of Bahrain in the Middle East say they have found the site of the Biblical Garden of Eden.

A Copenhagen Radio broadcast said the explorers believe that Bahrain itself was the legendary city of Dilmun, which is mentioned in the Gilgamesh Epic as the abode of Adam and Eve.

According to the archeologists, Dilmun was a desert spot made fertile by God. Their discoveries have revealed that the terrain shows that the area of 'Dilmun' had been a desert-like for thousands of years before it became fertile.

- Surprising that scientific archeologists are also 'fundamentalists'.- ED.

SEEN DEATHS OF THREE ORTHODOX CLERGY. In Athens, two Metropolitans in attendance at the recent special bishops' assembly of the Orthodox Church when suddenly died, both on the same day. They were Metropolitans Dorotheos of Trikala, 54, and Ambrosios of Paros, 65. Metropolitan Dorotheos was one of the 12 members of the Holy Synod. Metropolitan Ambrosios served as secretary of the Synod from 1936 to 1943.

ade, Father Ratko Blagojevic, an aged Serbian Orthodox priest in Uzhice, froze to death on his way to a neighboring village to hold Sunday Liturgy. The priest had braved the cold to cross a deserted mountain area, but was caught in a sudden blizzard. His body was found three days later in a snow bank.

* * * * *

ADOPTS BURIAL LAW EFFECTING ROMAN CATHOLIC CEMETERIES. A law enabling Roman Catholic cemeteries for burials of heretics and unbelievers was adopted by an overwhelming majority of the Polish Parliament, last month.

As a measure, cemeteries hitherto reserved solely for Catholics must in the future accept anyone dead, no matter what their former faith or present attitude might be toward religion, if a municipal cemetery is available. And, in certain instances, the State authorities have been granted the power to take over a Catholic cemetery on behalf of the public.

* * * * *

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES IT 'MAY' OPEN JESUIT SCHOOLS AGAIN. An Education Minister said the recent 'temporary' closing of three Jesuit schools in Cairo may be allowed to reopen as soon as the management 'comes to their senses and adopts the right course'.

The schools, both primary and secondary, had been closed for using textbooks offensive to Egyptian nationalism. The official explained that the textbooks had three faults: 1. They ignored national boundaries 2. They distorted Egyptian and Arab history 3. They did not conform to the Ministry's academic requirements or program.

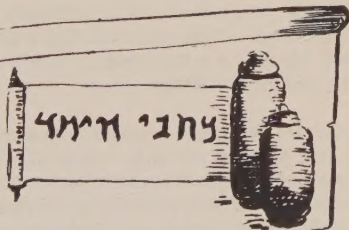
American, who has the opportunity to examine Catholic textbooks on American history as used in parochial schools in the U.S.A., will be astounded to read that Patrick Henry was the founder of the movement for American Liberty (even though he refused to sign the Declaration of Independence); that the Jesuit priests were the ones responsible for the opening up of the entire North American continent; that George Washington was baptized a Roman Catholic, on his deathbed; etc. - ED.

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DOMESTIC



RELIGIOUS CENSUS OF 86th CONGRESS TAKEN BY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
A complete listing of all members of both Houses of Congress was just completed by the Library of Congress. The results show that Roman Catholics are more numerous in the 86th Congress than members of any other single denomination.

Of the total of 98 Senators and 534 Congressmen, the Roman Catholics have 12 Senators and 91 Congressmen. A total of 103. Methodists are second with 98 (17 Senators and 81 Congressmen). Presbyterians with 68 (11 Senators and 57 Congressmen). Baptists with 64 (14 Senators and 50 Congressmen). Episcopalians with 63 (13 Senators and 50 Congressmen).

Of the non-Christians, there are listed 13 Jews and 1 Sikh (Rep. Saund of Calif.). Two of the Senators and five Congressmen failed to give their denominational listing.

- This is not the first time that Roman Catholics have out-numbered Protestants in Congress. The 75th Congress, which convened January, 1937, after Roosevelt's landslide victory, had 110 Roman Catholic legislators.
- Of interest, the nine members of the U.S. Supreme Court include 3 Presbyterians, 2 Baptists, and one each of the following: Episcopalian, Methodist, Jew, Roman Catholic. Among Governors, 12 are Methodist - 8 each for Baptists and Roman Catholics - 7 are Lutherans - 5 are Presbyterians - 3 are Episcopalians - remainder are divided.

* * * * *

U.N. PLATFORM FOR CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS ADOPTED. A set of principles dealing with Church-State relations designed to combat religious intolerance in 84 countries was adopted by a United Nations subcommission with a 10 to 1 vote (Poland, a predominantly Roman Catholic country, cast the negative vote - Russia abstained).

The adoption of the set of principles cleared the way for their inclusion in the religious freedom section of the Covenants on Human Rights, which will be discussed in the next General Assembly. The covenants are intended to 'translate the obligations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights into binding legal obligations on all UN member countries.' The principles adopted are based on a report of actual religious practices in nearly two-thirds of the participating countries.

The Soviet delegates fought for, and obtained, an amendment that the scope of the study should take into account not only 'religion', but also 'opinions' of individuals and groups. (This was introduced for the purpose of protecting non-religious sects, such as atheists or humanists.) The Roman Catholic bloc fought this amendment 'tooth-and-toenail', complaining bitterly that this would 'secularize' religion. The Soviets also fought for, and obtained, a compromise that would grant governments of member bodies the right to limit religious activities 'where they conflicted with the greater welfare of the State' - The Catholic bloc again fought this amendment, but were beaten. (The Catholic group overlooks the fact that they already practice this type of argument in South America, Spain and Italy - ED.)

The Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities was composed of delegates from the U.S., the Philippines, France, Great Britain, UAR, India, Iraq, the Soviet, Haiti, Finland, and Lebanon. Thirty-one private organizations, including various dominant religious bodies, had the privilege of submitting documents and comments during the preparation of the report.

5 BAR ASS'N. SEEKS LEGISLATION TO AID MEDICAL SCIENCE. A bill
the right of a person to authorize the gift of any part of his body, after death, was
ed in the Illinois State Legislature by Rep. G.P. Coutrakon,

to aid medical science, the bill was drafted by the Illinois Bar Ass'n. so that anyone
his eyes to an eye bank 'for research or other purposes', without legal delays.

ment issued by the bar association said: 'Whether a testator presently has the power
of his own body by Will is debatable. This bill would clearly give him that power'.

* * * * *

SS MARKS UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY. The U.S. Congress marked
n Independence Day in Washington D.C. by inviting Ukrainian Orthodox clergy to act
chaplains in both the House and Senate.

erend Vasyl Olynyk of the Orthodox Consistory, Youngstown, O., served in the House.
d the session with a prayer on behalf of the Christians of the Ukraine and expressed
ving for the freedom, peace and security that the refugees from there have found in
A.

er observance was held in the Senate by the Reverend Nicholas Babak, vice-president
sil's College, Stamford, Conn.

* * * * *

AND 'LOVE' BECOMING SLOGANS FOR STAMPS, COINS & CURRENCY.
g with the past Holiday Season, more than 1,000 U.S. Post Offices used special
'Peace' cancellation dies. Under a bill passed by Congress in 1956, the slogan is to
by all 1st and 2nd class offices, but postal officials stated that funds have only been
for issuance of 1,400 dies so far. (There are 10,000 1st & 2nd Class Offices)

at would require all U.S. currency and coin to carry the inscription 'Peace' is antici-
ng re-introduced in the Senate again this year. Last year, Senator Margaret Chase
roduced the measure to call attention to the dedication of the U.S. to the cause of
ace and also bear constant reminder to its citizenry of the importance of peace.

ot to be outdone, issued a new postage stamp honoring the 10th anniversary of the
l Declaration of Human Rights, U.N. A quotation from Leviticus 19:18, 'Thou shalt
neighbor as thyself' appears in the five official languages of the United Nations. First
rs, franked with the new stamp, were distributed to the UN delegates by the Israeli
on. The stamp bears the UN emblem, superimposed on the scroll of the Torah. The
ial languages of the UN are: French, Spanish, English, Russian and Chinese.

* * * * *

TERNAL REVENUE vs CHURCH WORKERS. The Internal Revenue has just
warning that all American missionaries serving abroad must file income tax reports
even though their income may be tax-exempt on the ground that they have established
de foreign residence. Hitherto, missionaries, whose income has been exempt due to
residence, have not been required to file reports. Forms are available thru Consulate
n each country. Known as Form #2555, if all their income is exempt, they need only
plus the name and address portion of the regular form #1040. (An estimated 28,000
n missionaries are now serving abroad)

g ruling by the Internal Revenue has also provided that any church-worker or delegate
rs travel expense in connection with volunteer work, or church convention attendance,
ct same from income tax, classifying the expense as a 'contribution'. This new ruling
an earlier 1924 stipulation that would not allow deduction of such items on any basis.
ithin the meaning of the ruling, however, the individual must be an 'official' delegate
er, recognized as such by the denomination.

CORNERSTONE OF NEW ARMENIAN CENTER DEDICATED. Cornerstone of the first unit of a \$2,500,000 Cathedral, parish cultural center and diocesan house was dedicated at a formal ceremony in New York City last month.

Officiating at the rites, attended by hundreds of followers, was Archbishop Sion Manoogian, primate of the diocese. Among guests of other denominations, were Protestant Episcopal Bishop C.F. Boynton, Canon West of St. John Divine, and Bishop Germanos Polyzoides of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.

The first unit, of the triple undertaking, is the \$300,000 diocesan house. Eventually, it will be flanked by the Cathedral and the Cultural Center. No completion date for the buildings was given.

- Established in 1889, the Armenian diocese consists of North America, except California, which has a separate jurisdiction with a following of some 60,000. The N.Y. diocese has some 100,000 membership. - ED.

* * * * *

50,000 VETERANS IN TRAINING AS DIVINITY STUDENTS. The Veterans Administration disclosed in Washington that 35,827 veterans of World War II and 12,392 veterans of the Korean War have undertaken training under the GI Bill of Rights to become clergymen.

It said that the 7,800,000 veterans of World War II and the more than 2,000,000 veterans of the Korean War, who have thus far entered colleges or trade schools, have prepared for virtually every occupation from astronomy to zoology.

The ministry ranked just below medicine and law in the number of veterans who undertook preparation for professions, under the GI Bill.

- This indicates that less $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1% of the young veterans of America are interested in the Ministry. - ED.

* * * * *

DR. CHARLES MALIK HONORED. The president of the United Nations General Assembly, Dr. Malik, was honored in New York at a luncheon sponsored by the Commission of Churches on International Affairs, a joint agency of the World Council of Churches and the International Missionary Council.

Dr. Malik has been a member of the CCIA since its inception in 1946. A member of the Eastern Orthodox Church, he was a lay member of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches from 1948 to 1954.

- The CCIA comprises 44 men and women of 27 countries, including church leaders, cabinet ministers, educators, historians and experts of many fields. It has offices in New York, London and Geneva. - ED.

* * * * *

60,000 MILE SEARCH FOR GUTENBERG BIBLES PROVES UNSUCCESSFUL. Reverend D.C. Norman of Chicago, Ill., completed a 60,000 mile trek in a futile search for missing Gutenberg Bibles.

Both of the Bibles are among 47 Gutenbergs known to exist. Of these, 35 are printed on paper and 12 on vellum. Gutenberg's press was located at Mainz, Germany, where an original between 180 and 300 Bibles were printed before Aug. 15, 1456. They are believed to be the first books ever printed from metal moveable type.

In his search, Mr. Norman personally examined 44 of the 47 tomes. Two, he was unable to find at all. The other volume was in custody of the Bank of Montreal up till a few weeks

as returned to Poland, its lawful owners, from whom it had been stolen during the

ers, Mr. Norman believes, they are located behind the Iron Curtain.

tenbergs (of the known 47 copies) are in the U.S.; 9 are in Germany; 8 in England; France; 2 in Spain; 2 in Italy; and one each in - Portugal, Switzerland, Austria, Denmark and Belgium. - ED.

* * * * *

MARY CHARGES PERSECUTION IN LATIN AMERICA A 'HARD REALITY'. The J. Fussell, missions editor of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, said the of what Protestant Christians have been called upon to bear at the hands of fellow in Latin America represents one of the darkest chapters in modern church history'.

ement, Dr. Fussell declared that : 'far from being exaggerated, the full story has to be told... While persecution does not occur in all Latin America and while it in those countries where it is found, it is none the less a dangerous reality.....as continues, religious liberty will remain in jeopardy'.

two instances of such persecution: a Catholic priest in Honduras threatened to the heads' of Protestant missionaries if they failed to comply with orders to stay out communities; another instance was when a priest entered a Protestant classroom was, tore up religious pictures and ordered the children to go home.



'I could sing to you of what they did to Montezuma, too.'

* * * * *

PREACHING ORDINANCE REPEALED. Dropping its case against three men with illegal street preaching, the Graham City Council (N.C.) enacted a new ordinance governing the times and places for such preaching.

cil refrained from appealing to the State Supreme Court a ruling by the County Court previous ordinance, which required a city permit for street preaching, was unconstitutional that it prohibited freedom of speech.

ndom, Minn., Mayor Lloyd Andrew admitted that he had erred in denying a Seventh-Adventist group the privilege of soliciting in the city for Church. The Mayor had told arrested Adventists that a city ordinance forbid soliciting by 'peddlers, hawking or rant merchants, and transients vendors of merchandise'. The Adventists' complaints ght a reversal of the ruling - they explained that they neither received salaries nor missions from such soliciting, and hence were not 'peddlers, hawkers, merchants or dors'; that all funds raised went directly to Church uses.

* * * * *

WOMEN TO BE PROTECTED IN COURT TESTIMONY. A bill was introduced Tennessee House that would protect clergymen from being forced to reveal confidential confessions of parishioners or confidants.

ntative J.R. Jones, initiator of the bill, said the principle of protection stems from a t of court case in West Tennessee last year against a Baptist minister, who was fined given a 10-day suspended sentence for refusing to divulge what he considered private

information received from a married couple prior to a divorce case.

The clergyman was later given a full pardon by Governor Frank Clement.

- Clergymen are fined and imprisoned for refusal to reveal confessions: gangsters and defiant union leaders evade questioning and, with impunity, walk out of hearing rooms going scot-free. Justice? - ED.

* * * * *

PEYOTE BAN REPEAL SOUGHT IN SOUTH DAKOTA. Repeal of a 36-year old ban against the use of the peyote plant by Indians for sacramental purposes will be sought during the current session of the South Dakota legislature.

The Native American Church, comprising Indians, is leading the movement to remove the use of 'narcotic' from the plant. This would then allow the Indians to chew it as a sacramental herb and drink its juices, similarly.

A church spokesman stated that the cactus bud 'is a medicine that is good for the mind, soul and body - a remedial agent'. He said, 'We, as a church, have experienced the means of the peyote and we know it to bring a natural tranquility without being injurious or habit-forming'.

- Peyote has been banned in a number of States and also by the Navajo Tribal Council on the grounds that it is a harmful, intoxicating drug capable of inciting to violence. The Native American Church, however, does not recognize their ruling as final and seeks relief thru the State Legislature. The Church had previously endeavored to win their desire thru the Courts but had lost out when the Judge ruled in favor of the Tribal Council and its powers of enforcement. - ED.
- In New Mexico, in the current session, a bill has already cleared the State Senate on the possession, sale or gift of peyote for sacramental purposes by a religious corporation within that State. It will not, however, apply to the Navajo Reservation in the State, which is under the jurisdiction of the Tribal Council and the Navajo Courts. A Federal suit is pending in the courts, with the Native American Church (Navajo) seeking relief from the Tribal Council's refusal to sanction the use of peyote on the reservation grounds. (Note: A similar measure passed the State Legislature but was pocket vetoed by the Governor.)

* * * * *

CHICAGO PRIEST APPOINTED TRUSTEE TO GREEK SEMINARY. The Very Rev. Father Basil Gregory, rector of S.S. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church of Chicago, Ill., has recently been appointed a trustee of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Theological School, Brookline, Mass.

Father Gregory will represent the alumni association for the Greek Archdiocese of North and South America. Holy Cross is the only Theological School for Greek Orthodox students in the Western Hemisphere. Father Gregory is a 1948 graduate of that School and has been pastor of the Chicago church since 1951.

* * * * *

GREEK GOVERNMENT DECORATES GREEK-AMERICAN. Mr. C.P. Verinis, Supra President of the Order of AHEPA (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association) was decorated by the Greek Ambassador in Washington D.C. last month.

Mr. Verinis was presented with the insignia and diploma of the Cross of Commander of the Royal Order of the Phoenix by Ambassador Liatis. The Order was conferred upon him by King Paul of Greece in recognition of Mr. Verinis' many years of service in the AHEPA during which period he aided greatly in the fostering of better understanding between the people of America and Greece.

WORLD-WIDE EPISCOPAL UNITY SERVICES HELD. Special Services were held across the world, during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25. The American Episcopalians, Anglo-Catholic group in New York, sponsored Services, in which Episcopal, Orthodox and Polish National Catholic Churches cooperated.

The 'highlighting' of this observance, was commemorated thru a combined Service on January 22nd at the Russian Orthodox Church of St. Mary the Virgin. Music was provided by the choir of the Russian Cathedral. Among many prominent churchmen present, was the Bishop Leon Grochowski of the Polish Church.

* * * * *

THE GREEK CATHEDRAL, IN LOS ANGELES, ADDRESSES EPISCOPALIANS. Reverend Father Leonidas Contos, Dean of St. Sophia's Greek Cathedral in Los Angeles, was the main guest speaker at the Annual Luncheon of the Episcopal Diocesan Auxiliary, which was held January 19th in the Hotel Statler in Los Angeles.

Father Contos, who had recently returned from a trip thru Europe and the Middle East, with laymen prominent in the National Council of Churches, delivered an address on the theme 'The Family in Christ'. This theme has been the spiritual theme of the Women of the Church, which was adopted for the coming three year period. In his address he emphasized the impressions he had gained from his trip.

Father Contos is a member of the Mixed Council of the Greek Archdiocese; vicar-general of the Archdiocese; board member of the Church Federation of Los Angeles and of the University of California at the University of California at Los Angeles.

* * * * *

WHITE RUSSIAN REFUGEES TO BE EVACUATED FROM CHINA BY CWS. The Chinese World Service, meeting in Atlantic City, N.J., announced a program whereby some 9,000 White Russians would be contributed to the cost of bringing 9,000 White Russians, living on the China border, to homes in Australia, Latin America and other parts of the world.

The CWS spokesman said: 'It is time we brought to an end, the suffering of these people. The Russians have been refugees for over twenty years, since the days of the Russian revolution.'

An amount of \$300,000 will be required from the various churches, in America, that are members of the National Council of Churches, which activates the CWS (a subsidiary body) in the work of feeding-clothing-housing-educating-and resettling the thousands of refugees thru the world. Transportation and welfare costs will be borne, however, by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration.

As mentioned in AREO, January, 1959, the Australian branch of the WCC raised \$95,000 for Christmas for a similar effort to aid needy and refugee peoples. Truly a laudable Christian service. - ED.

* * * * *

PROTESTANT CLERGY URGED TO 'REDISCOVER' THE SACRAMENTS. In a strong statement, Protestant pastors, Dr. A.C. Outler, professor at Perkins School of Theology at the Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, urged the 'rediscovery and recovery' of the sacraments as 'an essential part of the life of the Church and a vital element in communicating the Gospel'.

Churches are starving for the lack of radical, soul-searching, heart-warming encounters with the Living God. One could almost say of a typical Protestant Service of Worship that it is the work of a group of people to talk about God and to recommend the good life to each other in a friendly atmosphere which neither disturbs nor heals the profound hurt of a shattered or dead soul.' Dr. Outler warned, however, that there is 'no easy way and no immediate

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prospect that the stones of stumbling will be removed.....for a revival of worship and re-
of interest in worship'. An additional thought expressed was: 'The recovery of the Eu
would be a recovery of worship....'

- Every Protestant Seminary and Theological School should institute a study and practi
'workshop' in comparative liturgies, that thereby an acquaintanceship would be made
that which was used in the ancient, undivided church, as well as subsequent developm
thruout the centuries that followed. - ED.

* * * * *

GREEK ORTHODOX MONK PLANS MONASTERY IN THE U.S.A. An American
became a monk in a strict Greek Orthodox community in Greece, hopes to start a monas
the U.S.

One of 2,000 monks of five nationalities in monasteries on Mt. Athos (Holy Mountain), Br
Panteleimon told a group of Greek Orthodox Youth, meeting in Minneapolis, Minn., of his
as a monk.

The former John Metropoulos of Detroit, Mich., said his community follows the rule of S
and that he spends an average of eight hours a day in prayer.

Describing the daily pattern of his life on Mt. Athos, he said he rises at midnite, chants
out the night and after divine liturgy, in the morning, goes to work in shop or garden, or
for the sick. He retires at 7:30 p.m., after Vespers.

Brother Panteleimon said he eats only one meal a day on Mondays, Wednesdays and Frid
and two meals on the other days of the week. His diet being meatless. He explained that
purpose of fasting-vigilance-prayer was 'to be in a state always in the presence of God'.

- The meeting, at which he spoke, was held in connection with a National Drive to rais
thru the GOYA (Greek Orthodox Youth of America), a total of \$150,000 for a chapel ce
grounds of Holy Cross Theological School at Brookline, Mass. - ED.

* * * * *

PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK COMPLETED ON MT. SINAI'S ORTHODOX MONASTERY
arduous photographic work of recording all the aspects of the great art treasures embod
the 1400 year-old Orthodox Monastery of St. Catherine, Mt. Sinai, Egypt, has finally been
pleted.

The American-Egyptian expedition that conducted the history-making task, was co-spon
jointly by Princeton University, the University of Michigan and the University of Alexan
(Egypt). Members of the research team stated that the material studied is 'unsurpassed
quality, quantity and uniqueness' in the history of Byzantine art.

Thousands of photographs and architectural drawings were made, both in color and black
white. Among religious art forms studied, were hundreds of icons, miniatures, mosaics
coes, chalices, crosses, vestments, textiles and manuscripts.

Also photographed and studied were decorations and furnishings. Unusually well-preserved
apparently by the dry desert climate, are the basilica's huge wooden door and the centur
old crossbeams in the church nave. These are extremely rare, having escaped burning,
and destruction. Both the style of carving and inscriptions on the beams, including Just
name and a record of his wife's death, establish the date of the church.

Time consumed in the task was illustrated in the case of the photographing of a huge m
the Transfiguration. The great mosaic covered the wall over the main altar and it took
weeks to accomplish the task, with the aid of a four-story aluminum scaffolding. Scruti

piece showed that it not only was unspoiled, but had never undergone a major rest-
all its history.

series of volumes, dealing with the expedition and its findings, has been proposed.
of the proposed series will be Prof. Kurt Weitzman of Princeton University's Depart-
ment and Archeology (N.J.).

ely situated in rocky, mountainous country, 150 miles southeast of Suez, the ancient
ery is under the jurisdiction of the Greek Orthodox Church and is maintained by
of that Church. It was founded in the 6th century by Justinian the Great, Emperor
antium. Mt. Sinai, itself, is the site named in the Scriptures as being the place
Moses received the Ten Commandments; it is also the spot from which Mohammed
to have ascended to heaven on a camel. - ED.

* * * * *

GREEK CHURCH SAWED IN HALF TO FACILITATE RELOCATION. Something
ethods of moving a building, was revealed recently, when St. Haralambos Greek Ortho-
dox of Canton, O., was shifted from its old location to its present site, some 30 blocks

to accomplish this modern building 'miracle', the movers separated the rear portion,
arch, from the front portion; jacked up each separate part and moved them conven-
iently to new site. By this method, the problem of negotiating narrow streets was solved,
and, turned to its narrow width, was able to be towed satisfactorily. Without this meth-
od, each would either have had to be destroyed or dismantled in small sections.

* * * * *

FIGURES - PROBLEMS OF AMERICAN CLERGY REVEALED. In a series
of studies, some startling facts, figures and problems were revealed as being basic
and salaried thruout the country's clergymen.

A poll among 150 Lutheran clergy wives revealed a consensus that five basic needs
were common among them all: 1.Clergy should have more time for visiting the public; 2.They
should be relieved from office detail; 3.Have more time for rest-recreation-study; 3.Should
be able to do what they preach to others; 5.Stop being used as janitors, taxi drivers, 'ladies aid'

Salaries should also equal, or be on a par, with the average earnings of professional
men in the area or community in which they serve. A study by the National Christian Men's
Association revealed that most clergy have at least seven years of education, beyond that of
high school and usually are rewarded with a salary that reflects the earnings of the average
member of the community, rather than that of the professional man of the same area.

The Lutheran Life & Casualty Union of Minneapolis, Minn., conducted a survey that showed
a response from questionnaires submitted to a sample of America's 200,000 Protestant
clergy. The survey showed the following:

- 1. The average minister is about 40 years old, married with 1.88 children.
- 2. Salaries were revealed to be: 52% of the clergy receive between \$3,000 & \$5,000;
28% receive \$5,000 to \$7,000; 7% are paid between \$7,000 & \$10,000; 10% receive
less than \$3,000; only 1/2 of 1% receive over \$10,000.
- 3. Two-thirds of the clergy have congregations of less than 500 membership.
- 4. 15% of the clergy supplement their income by outside work.
- 5. 83% participate in one form of pension plan, or another; 82% have chosen to par-
ticipate in Social Security coverage.
- 6. 72% said their homes were furnished by the congregations.
- 7. 60% stated that their parishioners were cooperative in volunteer work around the
church.
- 8. 52% reported they were heavily burdened with administrative work; with little time
for leisure or recreation.

(continued)

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Professor G.E. Lenski of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Berkeley, Calif., in a ing the 3rd annual Institute on Preaching, itemized his diagnosis of clergy faults - pers and in preaching. He listed twenty principle faults, in preaching, as the 'worst enemies the clergyman of today; a few of these are: 1.The sanctimonious preacher; 2.The Apol one(Mr. Milk-Toast); 3.The Pontifical One (Mr. Big I-Am); 4.The Negative-minded sp 5.The Frivolous(Mr. Story-Teller); 6.Mr. 'One-track Mind' (the preacher with the pet

Professor summed up the weak minister as falling in one of the following three classifi to which he might be tempted towards:

Temptation to Shine




Temptation to Whine

Temptation to Recline



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Πρωτοψάλτου τῆς Ἑλληνικῆς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς Ἀμερικῆς

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WEST COLLEGE HAS 'TREASURE SHIP' COME HOME. A real 'treasure' and into Savannah Harbor (Georgia), early this month, bringing a cargo of archeological from Biblical Jericho.

specially constructed crates, and mountains of excelsior, were artifacts - jewelry - hold items from the times of the Old Testament prophets. Most of the items date 200 B.C.

Emory University's Archaeological Museum, they will be on permanent display. The shipment comes as a result of an Emory University expedition of 1958. Dr. Bowen on an earlier expedition in 1954, also had part in the collecting of a portion of the much of which was taken from tombs.

, curator of the Museum, expects that a true 'three-dimensional' reconstruction of life in Jericho can be 'put together' from these cultural remains of a lost civiliza-

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MO-RUSSIAN SEMINARIANS TO HOLD DAILY RADIO BROADCAST. Semin- Christ the Saviour Seminary (Carpatho-Russian), Johnstown, Penna., commenced a sious program over Radio Station WARD at 7:00 a.m. The program started January r the able direction of the Dean of the Seminary, Very Reverend John Yurcisin.

a minute program consists largely of a sermon and accompanying hymns, both in d Slavonic, sung by the Seminary Chorus under the direction of Seminarian Andrew

idenote, a recent graduate of the Seminary, Richard Smisko, was ordained as priest hop Orestes Chornock January 11th, last. The ordination took place in St. Johns Orth- church in Perth Amboy, N.J.

* * * * *

BALL HELD FOR GREEK ORTHODOX HOME FOR AGED. The First ll was held January 11th, at Manhattan Center in New York City, on behalf of the Home d of the 1st Diocese of the Greek Orthodox Church in North America.

the first institution of its kind for elderly Greek-Americans, is located at 3 Lehman kers, N.Y., just beyond the N.Y. City line. It is excellently furnished and equipped, us recreation rooms; modernly equipped kitchen and laundry; a chapel; and bedrooms n varying color schemes.

hich will be an annual feature on behalf of the Home, included both classical and pop- s; a leading Greek-American orchestra provided the music.

lar Home is under way in the Chicago Diocese, also; funds have been raised, land n purchased, plans drawn. - ED.

* * * * *

MEDITATIONS ON THE DIVINE LITURGY

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ST. BASIL'S GREEK ORTHODOX ACADEMY GROWS. Located on the picturesque of the Hudson River, just north of New York City, stands one of America's expanding ins of learning - St. Basil's Academy. Directly across the river lies West Point Military emy.

Writing in 'The Ahepan', Paul Prodromidis outlines the phenomenal, but trying, growth Academy for the youth of Greek-Americans. Located on the former estate of Jacob Rupp N.Y. beer tycoon, more than 28 buildings give the dedicated land its fundamental roots for ever-increasing service thru education and care of some 105 girls and young ladies; also a contemplated attendance of 100 boys.

AHEPA, founded as a 'Progressive Educational Association', has at last found 'a focal point for its historical mission', writes Mr. Prodromidis. The AHEPA Hall, recently completed at an estimated cost of \$190,000, will house 102 boys; shaped like a Greek letter 'Pi', the two-story building faces a quadrangle, with a pictorial well in the center. Constructed of concrete, fieldstone and brick walls, the building is 'set-off' beautifully with a blue-green slate roof.

St. Basil's Academy was established in 1944 as an orphanage by the now Patriarch Athenios. Later, the Academy added an elementary school and junior high, and soon after, a 3-yearers' college. From the latter, to date, 113 young women of Greek origin have graduated as teachers for Hellenic communities thruout the United States.

The basic financial support for the entire Academy comes from the 'Decadollarion' of the Archdiocese. In addition, various societies and other organizations add their combined help and strength to the continuance of the effort. The approximate yearly budget runs \$122,000.

At present, AHEPA is planning the construction of a \$275,000 Boys School on the grounds. The money is already on hand and the balance is scheduled to be raised by July 1st, 1950.

- On thinking of Greeks, in America, one customarily considers that automatically they are usually Orthodox by religious following, or, perhaps, sometimes, Evangelical. Little known is the fact that there is a Greek following among the Latter Day Saints (Mormons). At Salt Lake City, these, Elder James C. Nackos, is organizing all Greek members within the Latter Day Saints into an organization to promote the church work in their own midst. - ED.

* * * * *

GROWING AWARENESS IN AMERICAN MIND OF EXISTENCE OF ORTHODOX CHURCH

The growing stature of the Eastern Orthodox Church in American Life, in the Press and Radio Medias, and in Foreign Affairs has brought an increasing awareness in the minds of the general American public that there exists a great Church body, besides that of Protestantism and Roman Catholicism: - namely - that of the Eastern Orthodox Church, with all its varied Nationalistic elements.

Religious periodicals have also contributed to this awareness by publishing lively and interesting articles on the Orthodox Faith. The most recent such treatment was rendered in the February 1st issue of 'Presbyterian Life'. A series of quotes, in condensed form, followed in order that an idea may be given as to the approach taken in presenting the ancient Faith of the Fathers of Christendom.

'We note bulbous domes, topped by double-barred crosses, of new church buildings....in the East that the children of immigrants from eastern Europe and western Asia have held to their ancient faith in the New World. Congregations of the Eastern or Orthodox Churches here in the U.S. stem from the most ancient centers in Christian history - Jerusalem, Antioch, Alexandria and the cities of Asia Minor. Their origins go back directly to the Book of Acts, preceding the founding of the Church in Rome, and make absurd the claim of the Roman Church to supersede as the one true Catholic Church.'

'These eastern Catholic Churches are bound to play an important part in the future of the Christian Nations of the Middle East. For more than 1,300 years they have persisted as minorities in the East.'

...surviving isolation....persecution and disabilities....testifying to the imperish-
of.....God's hand....'

...ns can rejoice that in recent years some of the branches of the Church in the East
...g to share with Protestants in the ecumenical movement.....1925, the Patriarch
...nople took part in...international Christian conference in Stockholm. At Evanston...
...Greek Orthodox Church, Coptic Church of Egypt, and Ethiopian Church were well rep-
...The World Council of Churches Central Committee has members from Greek
...church and the Ethiopian Church.'

...ptic Church and Ethiopian Orthodox Church are indigeneous to Egypt, Sudan, and
...ne Greek Orthodox and Jacobite or Syriac Churches are found in Lebanon, Syria and
...estorian Church in Iraq and Iran; the Armenian Gregorian Church has adherents in
...ountries, particularly in Lebanon, Syria, and Iran.'

...e evident that the Christian Church is sadly divided in the Middle East. The ancient
...nheriting theological differences 1,500 years old, have little to do with one another,
...ation is complicated by splits from several of them, known as Uniate Churches,
...n communion with Rome.....The Evangelicals....are under suspicion of 'sheep
...y the older churches)....'

...gnificant is a new emphasis in the Coptic Church on Bible study. It is said that
...enrolled in a 'Friends of the Bible' movement.....The Reverend William Haddad
...writes of the Orthodox Youth Movement, which was founded some fifteen years ago.
...ram includes Bible study and church history, and extensive Christian education
...day and Sunday schools'. Mr. Haddad states that their leaders are well versed in
...and are eager to awaken congregations to the implications of their great heritage. He
...cooperation of the Youth Movement with other church groups, notably Protestant, is

...ient churches of the Middle East give more emphasis to the nurture of the laity, and
...modern methods of religious education, the clergy will perceive that broader theolog-
...ion is inevitable.....One result will be a lowering of the barriers between them and
...ants.'

...Society Record', in the January issue, also featured the Middle East in an article that
...titled: 'The Bible in the Coptic Church'. Excerpts from this, also, are here given:

...native Christians and their successors, now racially the purest representatives of
...Egyptians, were known as 'Copts' and in the historic Church tradition became the
...odox Church of Egypt.'

...Church of Egypt has a very deep Biblical background....'

...l Testament was translated from Hebrew to the Greek Septuagint by the 72 Jewish
...in Alexandria in 283 B.C.

...was among the earliest to receive the Gospels:

...The Gospel of Mark was of St. Mark, traditionally the 1st Bishop of Alexandria.

...Luke dedicated his Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles to Theophilus, a lay gentile
...of Alexandria.

...The discovery of the earliest version of Matthew is related to Pantaeus of Alexan-
...dria. He brought it from India to Alexandria, where it was translated from Hebrew
...to Greek.

...ations: When Christianity spread into the interior of the country, where the Greek
...ge was not understood by the majority of the Egyptians, the Scriptures had to be
...ted into the different Coptic dialects of the Egyptian language. The translation of
...le Bible was made in the Catechetical School of Alexandria in the latter part of the
...ntury.

...Copts preached Christianity in Nubia and Sudan, the Scriptures were translated into
...language written in Coptic characters. In Ethiopia, they were translated into the
...native tongue "Ge'ez."

Just before the beginning of the 13th century, the Bible was translated into Arabic in Egypt as a result of the spread of the Arabic language among the Copts at that time.

Coptic services are a continuous program of teaching the Bible. Every service has.....a set of Biblical lessons read.....Gospels.....Epistles.....Acts of Apostles.....Psalms.....Parts of the Old Testament.....the Bible is used as a textbook for teaching the art of praying.....and church music is based upon Biblical events.....the long hymns used in fasts and feasts for Bible stories and teachings in detail.

The Coptic Church....(has)....a tradition that a school must be attached to every...church. More than three quarters of the sessions are Biblical studies.....Students are encouraged to study the Bible at home.....special awards and prizes are given to those who study or memorize Biblical passages. Bible stories are formed into hymns for the different age groups.

The Bible...(is studied)...to provide variation and avoid monotony: biographies, topics, verses by verse; by chronology, ethical and social problems, etc.....One of the most effective methods used...is to...(interleave)....the Bible with blank sheets between every two pages to help the student write his own meditations and studies. Another method used is to print a syllabus with 300 questions to be answered by underlining the relevant verses.

Among the numerous Coptic benevolent societies which teach the Bible and hold Bible classes, there is a special society called 'The Coptic Society of the Friends of the Bible'.

A wide program.....to promote Biblical knowledge in rural areas. Two volunteer teachers visit the villagers weekly to hold a Sunday school class for children at noon and a Bible class for adults at night. Literacy campaigns are held in some villages to enable farmers to read the Bible. In these cases, free Gospels are distributed.

The Coptic Church has been and still is Biblically rooted.'

- With continuing emphasis, by non-Orthodox bodies, on phases of the Eastern Church, the American public cannot but help becoming more and more aware of the tradition and teachings of the ancient church. Such awareness breaks down the stiff, unyielding partition which prevents greater cooperation and understanding between the existing phases of Christianity as we know them today. Every religious publication should feature some interesting article on the Eastern Orthodox Church, that thereby their readers might also be acquainted to a certain measure, with the history-customs-background of Christianity's oldest branch.

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DO YOU KNOW?

What is the origin of the term 'high church', heard in Episcopal Church circles?

The term was applied under Queen Anne to strong supporters of the Church of England services; later, it was applied to all Anglicans who held a 'high view' of the Church sacraments.

What is the proper manner of displaying church banners or flags at church services?

When a church flag or banner is used along with the flag of the Nation, it is given preference, being placed to the right of the minister, if in the pulpit, and to the right of the congregation, if on the floor.

What is simony?

The purchase or sale of a church office by money payments or other 'gratitudes'. The term came into use from the Scripture story of Simon Magus (Acts 8:18-24), who offered to buy the Apostles' for giving him the gift of the Holy Spirit. In the Orthodox Church, the term has frequently been used when applied to 'paying a bishop' for an ordination.

What is the so-called 'Black Pope'?

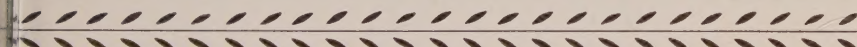
A nickname applied to the Superior General of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), the largest Roman Catholic religious organization in the world. The term originated as a reference to the prestige and influence exercised by the leader of the Jesuits and to the color in general. The word 'black' was given a two-fold meaning by many historical writers (notably Pascal in his 'Pensees') - Jesuits habitually garb themselves in black, whereas the Pope dresses in white. In addition, the shadowy operations of the Jesuits in various intrigues gave the word its other meaning.

What is the origin of the word 'missionary'?

During pre-Christian centuries, the missionary spirit was highly developed through Judaism. With the advent of Christianity, however, the whole movement collapsed and with but few exceptions, was never reborn.

When was the Y.M.C.A. organized?

The Young Men's Christian Association, was organized June 6th, 1844 by George Williams and twelve young men in London, England.



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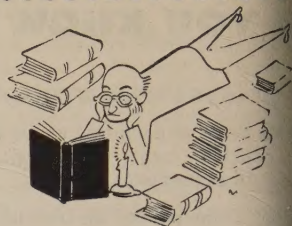
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